

Fort Worth Daily Gazette.

DEMOCRAT PUBLISHING COMPANY.

FORT WORTH, TEXAS, THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 1888.

VOL. XIII. NO. 212.

B. C. EVANS CO

We will this week open up more than 500 Cases of

NEW SPRING GOODS

And we hereby extend a cordial invitation to the people to call and see the new styles with which our salesrooms will be overflowing. See here! To-day we have put on sale a large lot of

LADIES' SILK UNDERVESTS

In Creams, Pinks, Blue and Cardinals, worth \$3 at \$1.50 each. 200 dozen Ladies' fast dye black lisle thread hose, extra quality, worth \$1, for 65c per pair. Special bargains in Misses' Ribbed Hose from 25c to 50c per pair.

NEW DRESS GOODS.

NEW SILKS, NEW SATTEENS.

To be ready by Wednesday at

B. C. EVANS CO'S.,

Fort Worth, Texas.

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Safety Deposit Boxes, Fire and Burglar Proof, For Rent.

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A general banking business transacted. Collections made and promptly remitted. Exchange drawn on all the principal cities of Europe.

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WHOLESALE AND RETAIL

WATCHES AND CLOCKS,

Diamonds and Jewelry, Solid Silver and

Plated Ware, Spectacles, Etc.

Fine Watchwork and Engraving!

605 Main St., Fort Worth, Tex.

HOTEL PICK WICK,

Corner Main and Fourth Streets, Fort Worth, Tex.

RATES, \$2.50 Per Day.

Geo. C. HUDGINS, Manager.

LOOK AHEAD!

Cease to Buy Recklessly! Have a Care for the Future and Buy Judiciously!

You can do so if you come to us. We are now clearing out our mid-winter stock of Dress Goods, Flannels, Blankets, Plush, Shawls, Cloaks and all Woolen Goods and in order to move the goods speedily we have made a horizontal reduction all round. Prices have found a level, and the firm that goods cheaper than we do will have to sell below cost. Depend upon it, our prices are the lowest and quality the best.

FORT WORTH MERCANTILE COMPANY,

705 Main Street.

S. MINSHALL, Manager.

ARKANSAS ROADMEN.

Another Passenger Train on the St. Louis, Arkansas and Texas Railway Robbed in Arkansas.

The Engineer and Fireman in Charge the Same Who Were Running the Train Robbed at Genoa.

From Five to Ten Thousand Dollars Obtained from the Express Car—The Engineer's Account of It.

ANOTHER TRAIN ROBBERY IN ARKANSAS.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Feb. 29.—A special to the Post-Dispatch from Pine Bluff, says the train robber has again appeared in Arkansas, this time on the St. Louis, Arkansas and Texas Railroad, about twenty miles below this city. As train No. 2 north bound stopped at Kingsland about 1 o'clock this morning three men stepped on the platform of the baggage car next to the engine. About a mile from Kingsland the train suddenly came to a standstill and the conductor, J. B. Browning stepped to the door to see what was wrong. As he opened the door a bullet whistled by his head and he at once retreated inside of the car where he remained during the trouble. The robbers went to work in a cool and systematic way. They boarded the engine and commanded the engineer, Bob Hew, and the fireman, Ed Harknett, to hold up their hands. Harknett was just in the act of putting a shovel of coal in the fire-box and, supposing it was one of the train men trying to perpetrate a joke, he dropped his shovel, exclaiming "ah, there!" The robber with grim humor dropped the muzzle of his six-shooter against the fireman's cheek with the words, "stay there, you —!" The fireman quickly climbed down from the box. Taking the fireman and engineer with them, the robbers ordered them to call on the messenger.

TO OPEN THE CAR. They did as ordered, but he refused to show up. Then began a fusillade which lasted while the attempts were being made to force a way into the car. The fireman was ordered to take a slash bar from the engine and break in the door of the car. He obeyed, but as he could not get in after ten minutes delay the robbers proceeded to set the car on fire. This forced the messenger to open the door and the engineer and fireman were made to get into the car first, their bodies thus protecting the robbers as they climbed in. The messenger opened the safe without further trouble and the contents were quickly transferred to a sack. The exact amount taken is not known, though it is believed to be large. The mail car and passengers were not molested. The engineer and fireman of this train were in charge of the train robbed at Genoa, Arkansas, a few weeks ago. The messenger received a note at Texarkana warning him to look out, but he paid no attention to it believing it to be a joke. The robbers were just thirty-five minutes doing the work.

Later reports state that between \$5000 and \$10,000 was taken. Some place the loss was much higher. The sheriff and posse are in pursuit of the robbers.

THE ENGINEER'S STORY.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Feb. 29.—Officials of the Cotton Belt Railroad were notified this morning early that a robbery had been committed on passenger train No. 2 at Kingsland, Cleveland county, Ark. at about 1 o'clock this morning, and that considerable money and unobtainable papers had been taken from the express car in charge of Messenger Calvin of the Southern Express Company. Calvin also had in his charge packages of money collected at stations along the route intended for the central offices of the company. This with some of the funds of the express company made the cash lost about \$1000.

H. G. Allis, auditor of the road, received the above from Superintendent Fleming, located at Texarkana, and later came

A MEAGER DESCRIPTION

of the robbers, giving their height at about five feet ten inches, five feet seven inches and five feet six inches, and weighing 160, 150 and 140 pounds respectively. He is also informed that the sheriff of Jefferson county started in pursuit of the robbers at 5:30 this morning, and that the sheriff of Cleveland county was scouring the country with a large posse. It is expected that the officers of each county in the state will be on the alert, as Governor Hughes has offered a reward of \$200 for the arrest of each robber. The railroad company has offered \$250 reward for each, and the express company signify their intention of adding \$200 for each capture, making a total reward of \$1950 for the three.

Bob Hew, engineer of the train, tells of the robbery as follows: I had just put on the air-brake for Kingsland when a fellow came crawling over the tender towards me, and in an instant had his revolver pressing against the side of my head. He said, "Pull out, quick!" and I did it, you bet. After we had run about a mile and a half he told me to shut her off, and as soon as we stopped two other fellows showed up

FROM BEHIND THE TENDER and ordered me and my fireman to come off that engine. Harknett, my fireman, crawled down, but I told them I wouldn't leave my machine. In about a second there were six revolvers pointed at me and I concluded it was too warm in my engine any way and so I got down too. Then they told us to uncouple the mail and express car from the rest of the train, but we pretended not to be able to do it, and as the messenger, Tom Calvin, refused to open up they commenced shooting in a lively shape. Then they went and got a can of oil from the engine and a lot of waste and piled it up against the car door and set fire to it. Calvin began to beg them, and told them if they would agree not to hurt him he would open up. They told him to come ahead, and he

THREW OPEN THE DOOR

and jumped down to the ground. The robbers then helped themselves. I don't believe they got a great deal, as about nine-tenths of the run was hidden by the messenger. This is the second time. I

guess the boys must like me pretty well. It was the easiest thing I ever saw. We stood there for about twenty minutes, and not a single man showed up out of the cars except a nigger, who stood on the platform and cussed the robbers all the time they were at work. They just laughed at him, though, and kept right on."

THE FIRE RECORD.

Union Square Theater Burned—Big Blaze at Little Rock. A Metropolitan Blaze.

New York, Feb. 28.—Union Square theater, with all its contents, was destroyed by fire this afternoon. The Morton house, adjoining on two sides, was badly damaged, and the Star theater was in imminent danger for some time. About 1 o'clock a chambermaid in the rear of the top floor of the Morton house saw smoke coming through the crevices in the doors of the main hallway. She was too frantic with fear for fully five minutes to give an alarm, and by that time the smoke was pouring into the hotel. Her cries brought about twenty chambermaids from their rooms on the top floor and the guests from theirs. All rushed pell mell down stairs, and not a few of them were bruised by trunks that were being taken down at the same time. The confusion for the time was great, and much valuable time was lost.

The work of the firemen was much hindered by THE SCARCITY OF WATER and before a good stream could be gotten on the fire all possibilities of saving the theater was passed. The firemen then cleared the Morton house of guests and attaches and devoted their efforts to saving the hotel. When the burning of the theater became known throughout the city the excitement was great and it was intensified every moment by special ambulance calls being sent out. The flames started in the rear rooms of the top floor of the theater and were fanned by a brisk southeast wind. The dry woodwork of the building blazed like shavings and it was not long before the thin sheet-iron partition between that portion of the hotel and the theater was melted, and a mass of living coals dropped into the stage of the theater. The scenery and curtains flashed up, and where the members of the "Henrietta" Company a few minutes before finished their morning rehearsal, was a seething furnace. In a trice, apparently, the roof fell in, and the flames shot upwards. The fire became so hot that the firemen were forced so far from the building their efforts were almost useless. The Star theater was

IN CONSTANT DANGER, but the firemen finally saved it. Manager J. M. Hill of the Union square was in his office in the building and with him was Treasurer Hall of the Casino. They escaped with difficulty. The damage will amount to a little less than a third of a million dollars. Over twenty ambulance calls had been sent out prior to 2 o'clock when the fire was raging most fiercely. The roof of the theater fell in while a number of firemen were doing service by fighting the fire from the interior of the building. The spectators were horrified by hearing heart-rending screams of agony. In a moment or two a number of firemen rushed from the burning building carrying a number of their comrades. They were Foreman Frenzel, Assistant Foreman Eakins, firemen, Ross Tomlin, Frank McQuade and Frank O'Connor. They were all badly burned and injured by the falling timber, though not fatally. It is thought, and were taken to the New York hospital. At 3 o'clock the fire was under control.

Blaze in a Dry Goods Store.

LITTLE ROCK, ARK., Feb. 29.—About 11 o'clock last night a fire was discovered in the cigar store in the corner of the large three-story building on Main and Third streets, owned and occupied by Wolf & Co, the largest wholesale dry goods house in the southwest. In half an hour the firemen had the flames under control and saved the building, but the loss to both building and stock, the latter chiefly from water, will reach \$60,000. The building was insured for \$12,000. The stock also was amply insured.

Norman Stallion Burned.

Special to the Gazette.

AUSTIN, TEX., Feb. 28.—The barn and stable of J. H. Jones, south of the river, was burned this morning. A fine Norman stallion was burned to death.

THE WICHITA FALLS TRAGEDY.

No New Developments—Marshal Johnson Seriously Injured.

Special to the Gazette.

WICHITA FALLS, TEX., Feb. 29.—There are no new developments in the Frank James killing affair, the inquest having been adjourned until to-morrow to await the arrival of the defendant's attorney, Robert E. Arnold of Graham, when the examining trial will take place.

Frank James was no relation of Frank and Jesse James of Missouri, but it is said that his mother lives in or near Grapevine, Tex., and a cousin, Mrs. Cates, in Gainesville, Tex. He was a good hand on a ranch and of good disposition when sober, but when drinking was overbearing.

Deputy United States Marshal E. W. Johnson has been General Cabell's deputy for over two years, has a good record as an officer, and is of a quiet, forbearing disposition, but brave and fearless in discharge of his duty. He is a cousin of United States Attorney-General A. H. Garland, and was born and raised in Arkansas. He is suffering a good deal from the influence of opiates, as he has lost a great deal of blood; the foot of the room he was in looked like they had been killing hogs. Frank James did not bleed at all outwardly.

A Baby Heiress.

Special to the Gazette.

SWEETWATER, TEX., Feb. 29.—The board of appraisers appointed by the Probate court to appraise the J. M. Runyon estate, report \$29,000 in cash and notes, belonging to his only heir, Miss Burnie, who is only two years old.

BEASON DYING.

The Man Who Acknowledges Himself the Murderer of Miss Genie Watkins at Death's Door.

He Jumps From the Train at Milheim While it is Going Forty Miles an Hour.

What Officer Ben Evans and Marshal Farmer Have to Say—The Chain of Evidence.

Naturally the publication in yesterday morning's GAZETTE in regard to the arrest at Meridian, Miss., of William L. Beason, and his connection with the fearful tragedy enacted in Gainesville in July of last year created a sensation in this city. City Marshal Farmer returned on the morning south bound Santa Fe train from Gainesville, and expressed himself as confident that the murderer of Miss Genie Watkins and the man who had attempted to murder Miss Mamie Bostick was in the hands of Officer Evans and that W. L. Beason was the man.

During the day Marshal Farmer received the following telegram:

MCGREGOR, TEX., Feb. 29, 1888.

S. M. Farmer:

Meet me at the train to-night. Beason is badly hurt. Ben C. Evans, Marshal Farmer at once telegraphed to Officer Evans inquiring as to the nature of Beason's injuries and how they had come about and late in the evening received the following:

MORGAN, TEX., Feb. 29, 1888.

Sam Farmer:

Beason tried to escape by jumping off train and is seriously injured.

B. C. EVANS.

When this became known there was general speculation as to whether the attempt at escape was a confession of guilt or not. As early as 7 o'clock Marshal Farmer, with seven or eight of the police force and several deputy sheriffs, had assembled at the depot to meet the north-bound Santa Fe, due at 7:40, on which Evans and his prisoner were. Near the platform an express wagon was in waiting to carry the wounded man to jail. Reporters and a number of people interested in the developments of the case stood near.

THE TRAIN COMES

Promptly on time the train pulled in and the first man seen was Officer Evans standing on the steps of the baggage car. As the train stopped Evans jumped off and his second was surrounded by officers and bystanders. The whereabouts of the prisoner were made known and then a dozen officers and reporters went into the baggage car to see Beason.

"He is nearly dead," said Evans and this was found to be the case.

LYING ON A MATTRESS

with his head hanging back, his lower jaw dropped, and the sound of labored breathing coming from his throat lay the man who had been arrested on a charge of crime against property, but who was also accused of the most terrible crime ever recorded in Texas. His hands were crossed on his breast and the face, badly discolored on the right side by the bruises received in coming in contact with the ground, bore no expression of any kind. Neither pain or remorse were recorded there, no expression of fear or anger, the face was a blank.

Officers and reporters lifted the mattress bearing the man to the wagon and with five or six men on either side the party were driven slowly to the jail. Carefully the men bore their burden up the iron stairs and through the doors to the jail. The gates were closed, the mattress was laid on the floor, a step-ladder was placed under the head end of the mattress to raise it, and the requisition of Governor Ross, granted on February 9, 1888, to Ben C. Evans, as agent of the state of Texas, was fulfilled to the letter. Dr. J. B. McLean had been sent for to administer to Beason and soon came in.

THE ATTEMPT AT ESCAPE

The first questions put to Officer Evans were in regard to the attempted escape of Beason. Picking up the low crowned soft black hat worn by Beason, the officer showed where the head of the prisoner had struck the ground; the brim was bent and bore evidence of the fearful fall. Beason's right eye was black and the right side of the face was considerably discolored. The left leg about the knee was severely lacerated. Said Officer Evans: "It was about 10 o'clock this morning when the train was near Milheim going at the rate of about forty miles an hour that Beason rushed out the back door of the car to the platform and without second's hesitation sprang to the ground. The train was stopped and backed and Beason was taken on board. Dr. A. B. Gardner of Belleville was telegraphed to and when the train reached there got on board and dressed Beason's wounds. All this time the prisoner was unconscious and so remained at the hour he was placed in jail. It was a fearful jump he made for freedom and we all expected to find him dead when the train was backed up."

"Let me get the story in detail and if you have the requisition papers let me see them, please," said THE GAZETTE reporter. Officer Evans took the papers from his pocket and handed them over for inspection. Governor Ross' requisition was under date of February 9 and set forth that William L. Beason had

UTTERED FORGED PAPERS,

was a fugitive from justice and asked the Governor of Mississippi to deliver said Beason to Ben C. Evans, appointed an agent of the state of Texas, to convey him to the jail of Tarrant county. The order granting the requisition was under date of February 25 and was signed by Robert Lowry, Governor of Mississippi.

THE FORGERY CASE.

On December 26, 1887, Beason passed a check on a jeweler in Luling whose name is Nance. This check was on the Fort Worth National Bank for \$600, and was signed "J. H. Brown." It soon became known that it was a forgery and due complaint was made and warrant issued for the arrest of Beason. Before this, about a year ago, Beason

Continued on Fifth Page.